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Letter dated 30 June 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004) of 22 November 2004 and 1639 (2005) of 21 November 2005, I have the honour to convey to you the attached letter dated 22 June 2006, which I received from the Secretary-General and High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union, transmitting the report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR), covering the period from 1 March to 31 May 2006.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

06-41499 (E) 050706

Annex

Letter dated 22 June 2006 from the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations

In accordance with the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004) and 1639 (2005), I attach the sixth three-monthly report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR). The report covers the period from 1 March to 31 May 2006. I would be grateful if you would transmit this report to the President of the United Nations Security Council.

(Signed) Javier **Solana**

Enclosure

Report by the Secretary-General and High Representative of the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia Herzegovina

Introduction

1. This report covers the period from 1 March to 31 May 2006.

2. United Nations Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004) and 1639 (2005) request that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union (EU), report to the Council on the activity of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR), through the appropriate channels and at least at three-monthly intervals. This document is the sixth such report to the Council.

Political background

3. During this reporting period the general political and security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina has remained stable and fundamentally unchanged.

4. Discussions on constitutional reform continued. In March, party political leaders concluded a landmark political agreement aimed at streamlining the Bosnia and Herzegovina Tri-Presidency, empowering the Council of Ministers and improving the effectiveness of the Parliament. However, the constitutional reform package ultimately failed to achieve the required two-thirds majority in the Bosnia and Herzegovina House of Representatives on 26 April.

5. On police restructuring, Republika Srpska Prime Minister Dodik withdrew Republika Srpska participation on the Police Directorate Steering Board and Republika Srpska remains only as an observer. It is now uncertain whether the September deadline for producing an implementation plan can be met.

6. Bosnia and Herzegovina continues to make good progress in its negotiations with the EU on a Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA). The European Commission continues to monitor the progress of Bosnia and Herzegovina on SAA requirements, including cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and police restructuring.

EUFOR[1] activities

7. EUFOR currently comprises around 6,000 troops, deployed across Bosnia and Herzegovina in three multinational task forces. EUFOR continues to conduct operations in line with its mandate: providing deterrence, ensuring continued compliance in relation to the responsibilities specified in the General Framework

[1] EUFOR currently comprises some 6,100 troops from: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Albania, Argentina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Morocco, Norway, New Zealand, Romania, Switzerland and Turkey. Cyprus and Malta also contribute to the common costs of this operation. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will contribute from 6 July.

Agreement for Peace, annexes 1A and 2 and contributing to a safe and secure environment.

8. During this reporting period, the main effort of EUFOR has been to assist the local authorities. EUFOR has conducted focused operations in cooperation with local authorities and police and supported operations led by them. Several EUFOR operations have effectively targeted organized crime, particularly illegal logging and fuel smuggling. Routine liaison continues with police and other law enforcement agencies, including the State Border Service and Indirect Taxation Authority.

9. EUFOR continues its weapons collection activities, supported by an effective information campaign and with good cooperation by the local police: in the reporting period 1,129 weapons, 90,989 rounds of ammunition and 1,570 hand grenades and mines have been collected. EUFOR is also continuing to work, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and local authorities, to identify surplus and unsafe weapons holdings. With UNDP, EUFOR has advised and supervised the clearance of more than 14,000 mortar shells, 700 anti-tank mines and thousands of rounds of ammunition from the Vitezit factory which posed a danger to the surrounding population and a high theft risk.

10. EUFOR continues to play a key part in the overall EU approach in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working particularly closely with the EU Special Representative and with the EU police mission. EUFOR also continues to cooperate closely with NATO Headquarters Sarajevo.

Outlook

11. Looking ahead, the core security situation is expected to remain stable. EUFOR regular activities will continue as before, in close cooperation with local authorities and as part of the comprehensive EU approach in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

12. Pre-election campaigning is under way ahead of the 1 October general election.